



Lester McFawn

Former Sensors director assumes position at Eglin

by Airman 1st Class Marnee Carlson, Eglin Eagle

EGLIN AFB, FLA. — The former director of the Sensors Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, assumed the position as Eglin's director of plans and programs October 1.

In a July 21 announcement, Maj. Gen. Michael C. Kostelnik, Air Armament Center commander, named Lester McFawn, a member of the Senior Executive Service, as the successor to Bob Arnold. Arnold, after eight years in the position, moved on to become the 46th Test Wing chief scientist.

"With the standup of the Air Armament Center a year ago and the reorganizations it has prompted, Les McFawn is another great talent hand-picked to help implement present and future Armament Center plans," Kostelnik said. "His experience with the Air Force Research Laboratory will pay big dividends as his career broadens in the new XP position."

McFawn is returning to his home state after 30 years at Wright-Patterson AFB.

Over the years McFawn has held a variety of research and senior technical positions.

His career came to a new peak in January 1997, when he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service.

As the newest director of the Plans and Programs Directorate, McFawn will provide strategic direction and center resource integration for AAC. Some of the directorate's responsibilities include serving as the center's focal point for development of AAC programs, and promoting partnerships among business, state, community and the local government levels.

They also provide corporate advocacy and management for programs and initiatives relating to joint service, private sector, international, academia and non-DOD agencies.

"I intend to work with the base senior leadership to continue great relationships Team Eglin has established with the local community," McFawn said. "I want to promote partnering initiatives with the local community, as well as partnering initiatives with business, academia and the State of Florida that are win-win for both them and Eglin."

With his new position comes new challenges as well. According to McFawn, he feels his biggest challenge will be to set the future course of the Plans and Program Directorate.

"We need to build on the momentum established at this spring's Air Armament Summit. Implementing and institutionalizing the Air Armament Strategic Plan is crucial to the center's future," McFawn said.

According to McFawn, he is excited about his new position.

"I've seen and heard nothing but good things about the Air Armament Center since it stood up," McFawn said. @